

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 MCT-01
/109 W

-----044012 261424Z /72

R 261017Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9019
INFO USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 6100

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PORS, TU, US, IR, IZ, SY, UK, UR
SUBJ: IRAN AND KURDISH QUESTION IN TURKEY

REF: ANKARA 4606

1. IRANIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN UNHAPPY ABOUT CHARGES IN THE
TURKISH PRESS THAT IRAN IS ASSISTING A SEPARATISTS MOVEMENT
AND, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, THEY TURN THESE CHARGES PREPOSTEROUS
SINCE THEY WOULD MAKE NO SENSE EITHER IN TERMS OF IRAN'S LONG-
STANDING CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY, OR IN CONTEXT OF
ITS CURRENT POLICY TOWARDS IRAQ AND THE KURDS.

2. PRIME MINISTER AMOUZEGAR TOOK THE OCCASION TO UNDERLINE
THIS POSITION IN AN INTERVIEW HE GAVE KUWAITI NEWSPAPER
"AS SIYASSA," QUOTED IN IRANIAN PRESS JUNE 26. HE DESCRIBED
IRANIAN RELATIONS WITH IRAQ AS VERY GOOD AND REJECTED THE
TURKISH PRESS REPORTS ACCUSATION OF IRAN STIRRING UP TURKISH
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KURDS AGAINST THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT. HE SAID IRAN HAS
NO INTEREST IN INTERFERRING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF
TURKEY OR OF TURKISH KURDS.

2. WE AGREE THAT THESE PRESS REPORTS MAKE NO SENSE.
IRAN IS CURRENTLY VERY INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBILITY OF A
FALLOUT BETWEEN IRAQ AND THE SOVIET UNION WHOSE LONG TERM

EFFECTS FOR IRAN WOULD BE MUCH MORE VALUABLE THAN ANY
FOLLING WITH THE KURDS. IRAN IS CURBING THE KURDISH
REFUGEES IT CONTROLS MORE TIGHTLY THAN EVER AND WATCHING
EVENTS IN IRAQ VERY CLOSELY. OUR ONLY COMMENT AS TO THE
PROVENANCE OF THESE REPORTS WOULD BE THAT THEY SEEM TO SERVE
SOVIET PURPOSES MORE THAN THOSE OF ANY OTHER PARTY.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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